

XTEK partners with US global leader and two other Australian companies to offer small unmanned aerial systems (SUAS) to the Australian Army

Canberra Tuesday 6 September 2016: Australian defence technology company XTEK Limited (ASX: XTE) has teamed up with a top US small unmanned aerial systems (SUAS) maker, AeroVironment, and two Australian companies, Sentient Vision and General Dynamics Mediarware, to offer a unique SUAS capability to the local market.

The almost undetectable Wasp AE Micro Air Vehicle, designated as the RQ-12A by the U.S. Department of Defense, has been offered to the Australian Army and XTEK has been selected as the preferred tenderer for the Land 129 Phase 4 contract by the Department of Defence.

XTEK is the exclusive supplier of AeroVironment to the Australian and New Zealand market. Adding to the opportunity, XTEK will also maintain the SUAS and provide through-life-support for the fleet of SUAS at its Canberra and South Australian based facilities.

XTEK, Sentient Vision and General Dynamics Mediarware will add considerable value to the capability to be provided and the Australian industry content through the supply and integration of imagery exploitation (Mediarware - D-VEX) and movement detection (Sentient – Kestrel Land MTI) systems

“Our ability to customise and maintain top-of-the-line international military and security equipment for local conditions puts XTEK in a strong position to support the federal government’s push for greater local industry involvement in defence procurement,” said XTEK’s chairman Uwe Boettcher.

“It is XTEK’s strong industry reputation and local expertise that has enabled the Company to establish important partnerships with AeroVironment and other leading global companies.”

Kirk Flittie, vice president and general manager of AeroVironment’s Unmanned Aircraft Systems business segment said the partnership was key to the success of SUAS in the Australian market.

“Wasp AE is an all-environment small unmanned aircraft system designed for reliable and effective operation in real-world environments,” said Flittie.

Each Wasp AE system consists of two air vehicles and one ground control system (GCS).

Operating virtually undetected, Wasp AE’s mechanically stabilized EO/IR gimbal payload transmits advanced imagery, even in windy conditions, for mission effectiveness. It also features hand-launch capabilities, with a deep-stall landing in confined areas on land or water. It further can be operated manually or programmed for autonomous operation using the system’s advanced avionics and precise GPS navigation.

About XTEK Limited

XTEK Limited is the only listed homeland security specialist in Australia, providing high-quality protective, security, tactical and forensics solutions to the government, law enforcement, military and commercial sectors.

XTEK is focusing on the Unmanned Aerial System market for defence and commercial applications, including mapping, surveying, 3D modelling, photography and asset inspection. As well as developing its own range of SUAS for the commercial market, XTEK has an exclusive regional agency distribution agreement with AeroVironment for SUAS.

XTEK has also developed and is now commercialising XTatlas™ an aerial video sub-system to provide contextual video over digital maps in real-time and the generation of mosaic maps from the download video in near real-time. The primary target market for this innovative technology is SUAS.

For further information please visit <http://www.XTEK.net/>.

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